Dr. Abdul Kalam to analyse the causes of these accidents and to bring out remedial measures to avoid their recurrence, is yet to submit its report.

Educationally Backward States

1943. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide hundred per cent grant to educatioally backward States;

(b) if so, whether J and K State is also included in this scheme; and

(c) if so, the target fixed for removal of illiteracy in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Grants are released by Central Government to all the States including educationally backward States under various Centrally Sponsored Scheme and Central Schemes on the basis of sharing pattern which varies from scheme to scheme. Programme like District Primary Education Programme, Non-formal Education, Total Literacy Campaigns in Elementary Education and Adult Education sectors have a focus on educationally backward States.

(c) The Government propose to achieve total literacy in the country by the year 2005.

[Translation]

Tourism Circuits in Madhya Pradesh

1944. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the tourism circuits identified for Madhya Pradesh by the Union Government;

(b) the funds allocated for the development of tourism circuits during 1997-98 and whether any more tourism circuit is proposed to be made;

(c) the funds proposed to be allocated for this purpose; and

(d) whether the proposal to extend the Indore-Onkareshwar-Maheswar-Mandu-Ujjain circuit upto Ratlam-Mandsaur is under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) The following two travel circuits in Madhya Pradesh have been identifed for intensive development :

(1) Gwalior-Shivpuri-Orchha-Khajuraho.

(2) Bhopal-Sanchi-Indore-Ujjain-Maheshwar-Onkareshwar-Mandu.

(b) to (d) In consultation with the State Government, the following projects in the above circuits have been prioritised for central financial assistance of Rs. 153.00 lakhs during 1997-98 :

(i) SEL show at Orchha.

(ii) Water sports facilities at Khajuraho and Orchha.

(iii) Tourist reception centre at Sanchi.

(iv) Audio Guides for Sanchi/Mandu.

(v) Mandu and Orchha festivals.

The identification and development of new centres and circuits is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. There is no proposal at present under the consideration of Central Government to extend the existing circuits.

[English]

Irrigation System

1945. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank has approved 325 million dollar aid to the Union Agriculture Ministry for irrigation projects to boost Andhra Pradesh agriculture sector and revamp part of its irrigation system;

(b) if so, the projects for which this aid has been provided by the World Bank for development in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the total amount of aid provided to the State for this purpose;

(d) the projects which are likely to be undertaken in Andhra Pradesh from this loan; and

(e) the projects proposed to be undertaken in Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (d) The World Bank has agreed to provide a assistance of US $ 325 Million for Third Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Project for completion of spill-over activities of Andhra Pradesh II Irrigation Project comprising Srisailam Right Branch Canal, and Sriramasagar sub-projects, agricultural support services, resettlement and rehabilitation, environmental management programme and Dam Safety Assurance Works.

(e) Sriramasagar sub-Project Command covers part of the Nizamabad District.

Grant to Tripura University

1946. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hon'ble Prime Minister, during his last visit to Tripura assured a substantial amount of grant to Tripura University for its development;